



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State & Private
Forestry

180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-13-08)
Date: September 24, 2013

Subject: 2013 Emerald ash borer detection surveys

To: Dr. Colien Hefferan, Director
U.S. National Arboretum

The emerald ash borer (EAB) was detected in Washington, DC in August of 2011 as a result purple panel detection traps were deployed at the National Arboretum during the 2012 flight season (May-September) and again during the 2013 flight season (Figure 1).

I am sorry to report that multiple emerald ash borer adults were collected during this year's survey. The emerald ash borer is an invasive beetle that has been found in Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Minnesota, Virginia, Wisconsin and West Virginia. Since its accidental introduction sometime in the late 1990s, this beetle has caused millions of dollars in damage to ash trees across the Midwest, and has produced wide-ranging quarantines and regulations on movement of ash trees and firewood in the hopes of preventing further spread. The emerald ash borer impacts all North American species of ash trees, and may be spread over long distances through the transport of trees and wood products, such as nursery stock and firewood.

The National Arboretum should be developing a management plan for EAB, now that the beetle has been detected at the Arboretum. Based on the difficulty in detecting this insect it is likely that the beetle is already active on ash trees within the Arboretum. We ask that all Arboretum personnel continue to monitor ash trees for any evidence of EAB activity (e.g. declining ash, wood pecker activity on ash) and report any activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

I personally would also like to extend my appreciation to Christopher Carley and Sue Greeley for their valuable assistance in this survey. If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte at (304) 285-1544.

Sincerely,

Robert Lueckel

Field Representative

Morgantown Field Office

Cc: Christopher Carley, Supervisory Horticulturist

RMT/AKS



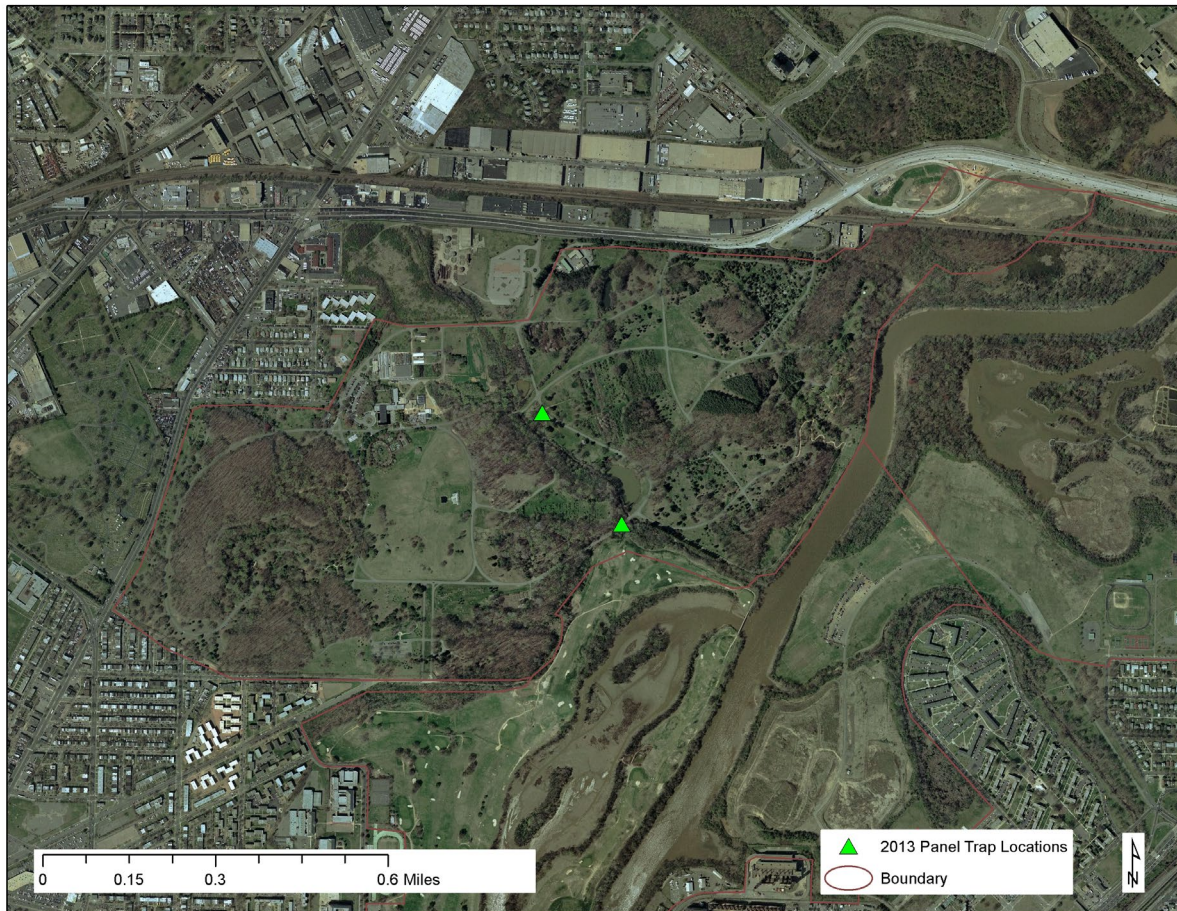


Figure 1. Locations of emerald ash borer traps within the U.S. National Arboretum.